

IOWA BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS PRESS RELEASE

For release, January 30, 2004

Recently, the Iowa Board of Medical Examiners took the following action:

Steven M. Cook, M.D., a 49 year-old physician currently from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, had his Iowa medical license reinstated. The Board indefinitely suspended Dr. Cook's license on May 3, 2001, due substance abuse, inappropriate drug dispensing, patient abandonment and failure to appropriately maintain patient medical records. The Board recently reinstated Dr. Cook's license after receiving information indicating that he has completed medical records and prescribing courses and he successfully completed substance abuse treatment. Under the terms of the Reinstatement Order, Dr. Cook's Iowa medical license was placed on indefinite probation subject to certain terms and conditions for substance abuse. Additionally, Dr. Cook may only practice in a group setting for no more than 50 hours per week and he must have another physician monitor his medical practice to ensure that he practices appropriately.

Philip W. First, D.O., a 52 year-old physician practicing in Monticello, Iowa, was charged by the Board with engaging in professional incompetency and practice harmful or detrimental to the public. Dr. First was charged for failing to ensure that an emergency medical service under his direction appropriately utilized established state and national trauma criteria and protocol which placed numerous trauma patients at serious risk. A hearing in this matter is scheduled for March 16, 2004.

Michael S. Miller, M.D., a 44 year-old physician from Linton, Indiana, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board. Dr. Miller was charged for being disciplined by the Illinois Medical Board. On March 24, 2003, Dr. Miller entered into a Consent Order with the Illinois Board to resolve pending disciplinary charges based on evidence he committed gross negligence during the treatment of a patient with a bowel obstruction. Dr. Miller had been charged previously by the Illinois and Iowa Medical Boards based on competency concerns in his Illinois surgical practice. Under the terms of the current Iowa Settlement Agreement, Dr. Miller is indefinitely prohibited from performing any surgery or participating in any surgical procedure under his Iowa medical license.

Henry W. Snead, M.D., a 50 year-old physician from Waterloo, Iowa, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Board. Dr. Snead was charged for quality of care concerns regarding his treatment of patients for weight loss and his prescribing practices for patients with substance abuse and mental health conditions. Under the terms of the Settlement Agreement Dr. Snead was issued a Citation and Warning and he was ordered to successfully complete a professional competency assessment and to fully comply with any recommendations made at the completion of the assessment.

Scott W. Warwick, M.D., a 48 year-old physician from Watertown, South Dakota, entered into a combined Statement of Charges and Settlement Agreement with the Iowa Board. Dr. Warwick was charged for being disciplined by the South Dakota Medical Board. Dr. Warwick's South Dakota medical license was immediately suspended on October 22, 2003, due to substance abuse. Dr. Warwick had been charged previously by the South Dakota and Iowa Medical Boards for substance abuse. Under the terms of the current Iowa Settlement Agreement, Dr. Warwick's Iowa medical license is indefinitely suspended.